

# JORDAN TIMES

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جورن تايمز يومية سياسية تصدر بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية «الراي»

## Arab trade body suspends Egypt

KUWAIT, Feb. 15 (R). — The International Federation of Arab Trade Unions (IFATU) today suspended the membership of Egypt's labour federation for supporting President Anwar Sadat's peace policies. The decision was taken unanimously at an emergency conference of IFATU, attended by representatives of all member-states except Egypt and Tunisia, a federation spokesman said. The suspension will remain in force until the Egyptian federation takes a new stand in harmony with "the aims of Arab nations and aims and resolutions of IFATU" the spokesman added.

## Peres to visit Egypt in April

JERUSALEM, Feb. 15 (R). — The leader of Israel's opposition Labour Party, Mr. Shimon Peres, said last night he will accept President Sadat's invitation to visit Egypt at the end of April. Mr. Peres told reporters after meeting Prime Minister Menachem Begin here that he was looking forward to the visit to Egypt. Mr. Peres reported to Mr. Begin on his talk last week with President Sadat in Salzburg, Austria. Mr. Peres said he felt there were serious differences between Israel and Egypt on the question of peace, but he thought that not all the possible solutions had yet been explored.

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## King flies to London

LONDON, Feb. 15 (R). — King Hussein arrived here today, plotting his own plans for a short stay with his children. Prince Ali and Princess Haya were met by Jordanian Ambassador Salah Abu Zeid, who told reporters the King's health was excellent and had nothing to do with his presence in Jordan of an American heart surgeon, Michael De Bakay. No arrangements have been made for meetings between the King and Prime Minister James Callaghan or any British ministers, although British officials said such meetings would be welcome. His Highness Crown Prince Hassan has been sworn in as Viceroy during the King's absence.



Israeli sappers look at the bus which was blasted in Jerusalem Tuesday night. At least two people were killed and 35 wounded in the explosion which ripped the back of the bus. Police have made several arrests and warned Israelis to be on the alert for a new wave of Palestinian guerrilla attacks. In Beirut, a Palestinian guerrilla organisation claimed responsibility for the blast which ripped out the back of the bus. It was the most daring act of resistance in Jerusalem for nearly two years. Police arrested several people from the occupied West Bank. Security forces and soldiers have begun a wide-scale search. Ten of the injured were still in hospital today, four in serious condition. Police warned the public to be especially alert for suspicious objects and the possibility of a new wave of parcel bombs. Israelis were told not to open any parcel arriving by mail from an unknown sender. (AP wirephoto)

## Syrian jeep is attacked in Beirut

BEIRUT, Feb. 15 (R). — Two soldiers attached to the peace-keeping force were killed and a third wounded when their jeep came under fire in a Christian suburb, informed sources said. The jeep was shot in the chest, in Furi Al Shubbak, are under-way, the sources said.

Reliable rightwing sources said the incident occurred after a Christian teenage had been shot dead in the district of Ain Al Rummaneh. Sources said the girl had been near the front line between Al Rummaneh and the adjacent Moslem district of Shi. The two districts were one of fierce fighting between Syrian troops and rightist army last week. Rightwing sources said the incident started when a jeep was in collision with a private car and an angry soldier fired. One of the soldiers fired in the air and the other fired at the car. An exchange of fire followed. An official of the rightwing United Party said members of a militia intervened and saved a surviving Syrian to command headquarters. The incident had been confirmed. There was no word on the fate of the nearby killing. The girl, believed to be 12, was killed. A resident of the Christian district of the city said "everybody is being careful to provoke anything, but the atmosphere is very tense. It is no surprise the incident happened into a gunfight." However, Beirut was calm traffic built up during the following parliament's adjournment. Tuesday of a bill setting special security court to those responsible for a six-week period between the Arab peace-keeping force and Lebanese army. Refugees from south Lebanon reported today that Lebanese forces exchanged fire with Palestinians in the south overnight. There were no reports of casualties or damage in the area between Qle'at and Marjayoun, held by the Palestinian-alliance. Shaya Al Fukhar, on the road sector of the southern front with Israel, was shelled at night the travellers.

Kuwait today the hard-line Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) accused of massing troops on the border with Lebanon. Expect the current to continue. Bassam Abu Al Qabas also charged groups of armed Palestinian fighters against the white government in Rhodesia, said today the internal agreement reached in Salisbury "will not work." "The war continues, we now know who the enemies are," Mr. Nkomo said. Asked whether the front would agree to negotiation with an interim government in Rhodesia, Mr. Nkomo declared: "This is nonsense." At the United Nations U.S. Ambassador Andrew Young said that the reported internal settlement could lead to "another Angola-type war" with up to 40,000 guerrillas pouring in from Tanzania and Zambia and the West unwilling to help defend the new government. He said the United States and Britain now must try to bring together the internal and external Rhodesian groups in an internationally recognised agreement.

While the Egyptian crew looks on at left, airport workers unload crates from an Egyptian ship in Nairobi airport Wednesday. According to the official Kenyan News Agency, the aircraft was intercepted over Kenyan airspace and forced to land in Nairobi while enroute to Mogadishu, Somalia. (AP wirephoto)

## U.S. rejects Israeli protest against sale

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15 (Agencies). — The United States today rejected an Israeli appeal against President Carter's decision to sell scores of fighter planes to Egypt and Saudi Arabia.

"This is a firm decision," a State Department spokesman said in Washington. "We have taken into account the views of others in making it."

Secretary of State Cyrus Vance said the sale will help peace. Mr. Vance told reporters after a closed-door House hearing that he believes Congress will understand the purpose of the sales and said he hopes it will approve them.

## Breakthrough scored in Rhodesian internal settlement negotiations

SALISBURY, Feb. 15 (R). — Black and white Rhodesian leaders today announced they had reached agreement in principle on the major points of a constitutional settlement and were within days of setting up a transitional government designed to lead the country to black majority rule.

Premier Ian Smith, Bishop Abel Muzorewa, Chief Jeremiah Chirau and Dr. Elliott Gabellah, who was deputising for the Rev. Ndabingi Sithole, told reporters after the 37th round of the so-called internal settlement talks that they had finally solved their differences over the key issue of white representation in a Zimbabwe parliament.

All four walked together, smiling and chatting, out of a red-brick suburban mansion where the talks have been taking place to give the news to reporters. The negotiations had been deadlocked for the past three weeks over the question of how whites would be elected to specially-reserved seats in parliament.

Bishop Muzorewa's United African National Council (UANC) could not agree with the stand of the three other parties that there should be a separate white voters roll for all 22 white seats in the 100-seat house. Mr. Smith said today this point had been agreed following an ingenious compromise proposal. He did not say what the compromise was, stating that it was complicated and had to be written down before being released.

Asked how close a transitional government now was, Dr. Gabellah, standing about three feet from reporters, replied with a laugh: "As close as I am to you now." Chief Chirau interjected: "It could be days." Said Mr. Smith: "You've got your answer." In Lusaka, Zambia, Joshua Nkomo, co-leader of the "Patriotic Front" guerrilla forces fighting against the white government in Rhodesia, said today the internal agreement reached in Salisbury "will not work." "The war continues, we now know who the enemies are," Mr. Nkomo said. Asked whether the front would agree to negotiation with an interim government in Rhodesia, Mr. Nkomo declared: "This is nonsense." At the United Nations U.S. Ambassador Andrew Young said that the reported internal settlement could lead to "another Angola-type war" with up to 40,000 guerrillas pouring in from Tanzania and Zambia and the West unwilling to help defend the new government. He said the United States and Britain now must try to bring together the internal and external Rhodesian groups in an internationally recognised agreement.

"We believe this will help move towards peace," Mr. Vance said. "We believe it will help the self confidence of the individuals involved in moving into fruitful negotiations." Mr. Vance said he believed the planes will give negotiating countries the confidence to "make political decisions that they might not quite be prepared to make otherwise."



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## Kenya forces down Egyptian plane with Somalia-bound arms

NAIROBI, Feb. 15 (R). — An Egyptian plane carrying 244 bombs to Somalia was forced to land at Nairobi airport by Kenyan air force fighters today, the Kenya News Agency (KNA) reported. The Egyptian government had asked Kenya earlier this week if Egyptian aircraft could overfly Kenya air space on their way to Somalia, but permission was refused, the KNA said. The news agency said that since the government refused permission, three Egyptian boeing 707s had flown over Kenya one Monday and two yesterday. They were believed to be carrying weapons for Somalia in its fight against Ethiopian forces backed by Cubans and Russians, the KNA said. When the fourth plane overflew today, it was forced to land at Nairobi's Embakasi airport. The agency said the Egyptian ambassador to Kenya had told the Kenyan Ministry of Foreign Affairs the aircraft were carrying humanitarian goods to Somalia.

## Carter's decision on plane sales to Egypt, Saudi Arabia evokes angry Israeli response

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Feb. 15 (R). — Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin today condemned President Carter's decision to sell warplanes to Egypt and Saudi Arabia, and said it threatened Israel's safety. Mr. Begin told the Knesset: "Supplying these planes to Saudi Arabia and Egypt endangers Israel's security and the peace-making process."

He thanked the American president for his proposal to supply Israel with 90 fighters, but called on Mr. Carter to reconsider his parallel decision to arm Saudi Arabia.

The Middle East package includes 60 McDonnell Douglas F-15s, the world's most advanced fighter, for Saudi Arabia. Israel would get 15 more F-15s, in addition to 25 already purchased, and 75 less sophisticated General Dynamics F-16s. Israel is asking for 250 F-16s.

Egypt would buy 50 less capable, shorter-range Northrup F-5E fighters.

Mr. Begin said he hoped the United States would provide Israel with additional arms as President Carter's proposals did not meet all Israeli requests.

The Israeli premier will meet President Carter in Washington next month in an attempt to bridge their differences. The date has yet to be fixed.

Defence Minister Ezer Weizman is expected to ask for more arms when he visits Washington at the beginning of March.

Mr. Begin said the planes for Saudi Arabia would be used against Israel if new fighting broke out in the Middle East.

"Israel has knowledge that Saudi Arabia has already approved a certain Arab state as those planes will be at its disposal in the event of a new war against Israel," Mr. Begin said. He did not name the Arab state.

The announcement in Washington of the arms package deal shifted the focus of disagreement between the U.S. and Israel from the issue of Jewish settlements on territories occupied from the Arabs in 1967.

Mr. Begin said today the two countries differed on the question of the legality of the settlements but had "agreed to disagree" on the issue during talks in Washington last July.

In Washington, U.S. sources said today that the United States believes its proposed sale of fighter planes to Egypt and Saudi Arabia would not substantially reduce Israel's military dominance in the Middle East.

U.S. military planners believe Israel could quickly defeat any combination of Arab forces for the next five years. The House Armed Services Committee made a similar finding earlier this month.

Comparing the F-5E with the two more capable fighters, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Gen. George Brown, was quoted as saying: "I don't think anyone in their right mind would try and fly an F-5 against either of them."

The whole sales package is subject to congressional approval later this year. A senior Pentagon official said the delivery of F-5s could begin during the summer but that the other aircraft would not be supplied until late 1981.

In Los Angeles, Mr. Dayan told reporters he thought the package was premature. The U.S. should not sell weapons to Egypt until it had signed a peace agreement with Israel, he said.

Mr. Vance said on television that the Israelis had "made no bones in advance that they didn't like the decision" when they were told yesterday.

Egypt was "very unhappy" they were not getting everything they were asking for," Mr. Vance said.

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Senior officials said Saudi Arabia needed the F-15s to replace out-of-date British fighters. But representative Lester Wolff said he would try to block this part of the package.

He said the administration proposal "raises serious questions about the ability of our country to help preserve peace in the Middle East."

Mr. Vance stressed that Saudi Arabia "faces a potential threat from certain of its radical neighbours" and senior officials mentioned Iraq.

"Sixty jets" is not a great number of aircraft for that country and the threat it faces," Mr. Vance said.

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## Will Mr Carter's package fly?

The Carter administration's decision to propose to Congress a package deal of military jet plane sales to Egypt, Israel and Saudi Arabia will not alter the strategic balance of power in the Middle East, but rather is designed as a slick political pattiative and a pat on the back to all three states. As such, it is probably going to cause Mr. Carter more problems at home and abroad than he needs right now, and we suggest that the real importance of the event is in the implications it has for Mr. Carter's domestic political position.

The Israelis made it clear several weeks ago that they would oppose the sale of F-15 fighter-bombers to Saudi Arabia, or even the lightweight F5-E fighter jets to Egypt. But Mr. Carter was cornered, because a) he was faced with the situation where the arms sales were seen by the Saudis and Egyptians as signs of American friendship, and b) he found himself in the rather awkward position of having to provide the political payoff to Egypt that Mr. Begin did not produce in reply to the Sadat initiative. Mr. Carter had no choice really but to sell planes to Egypt and Saudi Arabia, and to make the selling acceptable to Congress he coupled the deals to the Israeli request for F-15 and F-16 jets.

But Mr. Carter also knew that any military jet sales to Egypt and Saudi Arabia would evoke a great deal of opposition by the pro-Israeli forces in the United States, forces that wasted no time in making their objections known, as we saw from the quick statements, only hours after the news of the proposed plane deals, by such unswerving pro-Israeli regulars as Senators Clifford Case and Daniel Moynihan. Thus Mr. Carter's real battle is now in front of him, as he works to push the package deal through a hostile Congress. His determination in keeping the package intact will be a major new signal to the Arabs and the Israelis about precisely how serious he is in facing up to the Israeli forces and pushing through his own Middle East policies.

## ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

AL DUSTOUR, on Wednesday, said Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan has now invented a new illogic when, during his Jewish fund-raising trip to Chicago, he said that Jordan's refusal to take a place at the "negotiations table" with Israel is a "major obstacle" in the path to peace. Mr. Dayan, of course, forgot to mention anything about Jordan's clear position on these negotiations. As His Majesty King Hussein recently told Agence France Press, Jordan will not join these talks until they prove their seriousness and that must be proved by Israel's commitment to a specific agenda of peace on the basis of United Nations Resolutions 242 and 338. This would include withdrawal from all occupied Arab territories and the guarantee of Palestinian self-determination on Palestinian soil. Mr. Dayan, who knows full well the Jordanian position, is only trying to "pull a fast one" on the world and is clearly showing Israeli bad intentions.

### TO LET

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### 132 merchants sentenced

AMMAN, Feb. 15 (JNA). — A Martial Law tribunal here has fined 132 merchants between JD 30 and JD 100 for profiteering and disobeying instructions of the Supply Ministry. The court also ordered closure of three shops for the same reasons.

## Iraqi minister arrives

AMMAN, Feb. 15 (JNA). — The Iraqi Minister of Transport, Jamal Makram arrived here this evening on a few-days official visit to Jordan for talks with Jordanian officials aimed at strengthening general relations between the two countries.

The Iraqi Transport Minister told the Jordan News Agency he and members of his delegation are glad to visit Jordan and hold talks aimed at promotion of cooperation between Iraq and Jordan in all fields. He said the geographical position of both Jordan and Iraq requires them to achieve more cooperation in all spheres, particularly in transport and shipment of commodities.

The Jordanian and Iraqi sides will begin their official discussions tomorrow, Thursday at the Ministry of Finance.

Jordan's delegation to the talks is headed by Minister of Finance, Dr. Mohammad Dabbas with Minister of Transport, Ali Suheimat, Under Secretary of the Ministry of Customs Yassin Al Kayed, Under Secretary of the Ministry of Transport Hashem Al Taher and Assistant Director of the Aqaba Free Zone, Ismet Abu Al Saud as members.

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## Crown Prince visits Fifth Armoured Div.



Crown Prince Hassan meets men of the Fifth Armoured Division on Wednesday. (JNA photo)

AMMAN, Feb. 15 (JNA). — His Highness Crown Prince Hassan this morning visited the Fifth Royal Armoured Division where he was welcomed by the division's commander and top officers.

After listening to an account from the Division's commander on training, administrative and technical activities scheduled for the present training year, the Crown Prince made an inspection tour of all the division's formations and units.

Prince Hassan also presided at a non-commissioned officers' day ceremony held at one of the Fifth Armoured Division's formations. The ceremony programme included competitions in arms dismantling and assembly and shooting. At the end of the ceremony the Prince distributed prizes and cups to the winning teams.

### Local credit increases

AMMAN, Feb. 15 (JNA). — Credit facilities offered by commercial banks to various sectors in Jordan during last December increased by a total of JD 17,356,000 over the same period in 1977. Facilities given to the agriculture sector during the period amounted to JD 3,048,000; to the industrial sector JD 4,781,000 and to building and land purchase sector JD 2,858,000.

Facilities to tourist, hotels and restaurants sectors as well as to craftsmen and individuals during the same period increased by a total of JD 2,614,000.

### Fodder supply available to Irbid chickens

IRBID, Feb. 15 (JNA). — Six thousand tons of fodder will be made available daily from next month to cover poultry consumption in the Irbid governorate, sources at the poultry farms society said today. The society has installed a JD 2,000 band mill for supplying its 21 members with their poultry-fodder requirements.

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# National News Roundup

## Holiday on Sunday

AMMAN, Feb. 15 (JNA). — The Prime Minister today issued a communique announcing that all public institutions and government departments will be closed on Sunday Feb. 19 on the anniversary of Prophet Muhammad's birthday. Jordan will celebrate the occasion with religious ceremonies at various mosques around the country. A special celebration will be held at the Palace of Culture at Al Hussein City for Youth and there will be processions and marches by scouts and guides in the main streets of Amman.

## New agreement signed with CARE

AMMAN, Feb. 15 (JNA). — An agreement was signed here today between the Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Co-operative for American Relief Everywhere (CARE) agency for an extension of work on the development of Jordanian rural regions. According to the agreement, Jordan will offer JD 50,000 and CARE agency will make a contribution of \$375,000 for the execution of 125 development projects around the country this year. The Minister of Municipal Affairs, Ibrahim Ayyoub signed on behalf of the Jordanian government while the director of CARE in Jordan signed on behalf of the agency.

## Price inspectors tour hotels

AMMAN, Feb. 15 (JNA). — An inspection team from the Ministry of tourism today began a tour of various hotels in the country to see that the ministry regulations concerning prices are being complied with. The director general of tourism, Michael Hamarneh said that hotel proprietors around the Kingdom have been supplied with lists of prices which are to be displayed in the entrance halls and on doors of every room. He said hotels not abiding by the ministry regulations will be liable for closure. The measures, he added, were prompted by the fact that certain hotels were charging boarders more than the agreed-upon prices.

## Jordanian team will attend Islamic Bank meeting

AMMAN, Feb. 15 (JNA). — The cabinet decided today to form a delegation to attend meetings of the Islamic Bank governors Council due to open in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, on March 15. The delegation will be headed by Minister of Finance Dr. Muhammad Dabbas with the Governor of the Central Bank of Jordan as a member. The four-day council's meeting will debate a number of topics, including the Bank's budget and projects it supports.

## Syrian guards graduate

AMMAN, Feb. 15 (JNA). — The commander in chief of the Jordanian armed forces today attended here the graduation ceremony for a group of "Body guards", a special unit of the Syrian armed forces, for security and protection. During the ceremony, the graduates performed shooting exercises on mobile and fixed targets. They later received prizes and diplomas from the commander in chief. The ceremony was attended by the King's military secretary, and high ranking army officers.

## Jordan to participate in labour discussion

AMMAN, Feb. 15 (JNA). — Jordan is to take part in a meeting due to open in Geneva on Feb. 25 to discuss the subject of man-power emigration. The secretary general of the National Planning Council Dr. Taysir Abdul Jabbar will represent Jordan at the two-week meeting.

## Governor reviews trade potential with France

AMMAN, Feb. 15 (JNA). — The Governor of the Central Bank of Jordan Mohammad Said Nabulsi today discussed with a visiting French delegation means of expanding Jordanian-French trade relations. The talks were attended by a member of the Amman Chamber of Commerce and the secretary general of the Chambers of Commerce Federation in Jordan.

## Fair pavilion directors appointed

AMMAN, Feb. 15 (JNA). — Cabinet today approved the appointment of Seifuddin Al Azab as director of the Jordanian pavilion at the Tripoli International fair and Mahmoud Mahameh as director of the Jordanian pavilion at the Cairo International Fair.

## Egyptian trade delegation will visit this week

AMMAN, Feb. 15 (JNA). — An Egyptian trade delegation will arrive here on Feb. 21 under the minister of foreign trade, to attend meetings of the joint Jordanian-Egyptian Committee for the commercial protocol concluded between the two countries. The Ministry of Industry and Commerce has prepared a list of new Jordanian industries that have started production since last year, so their products can be added to the Jordanian industrial exports to Egypt.

## Amman Stock Exchange Report

Symbol	Company Name	Open	High	Low	Close	Change	Volume
100	AL-SABIR	1.300	1.300	1.300	1.300	—	1.300
200	AL-SABIR	2.250	2.250	2.250	2.250	—	2.250
300	AL-SABIR	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	0.950	1.000
400	AL-SABIR	1.400	1.400	1.400	1.400	1.350	1.400
500	AL-SABIR	15.500	15.500	15.500	15.500	15.550	—
600	AL-SABIR	1.050	1.050	1.050	1.050	—	1.050
700	AL-SABIR	6.850	6.850	6.850	6.850	6.900	—

## Local drama group has rural success

By Ian Kellas  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — "Foreigners don't drink coffee". This is the title of an Egyptian play performed recently in the theatre of the Department of Culture and Arts and quoted with much amusement by Mr. Hatem Al Sayed, the Director of the department's drama section, as he leant across to serve me with just that refreshment.

He was describing the activities of a small group of people who are trying to get drama established as a popular art form in Jordan. The focus for the group is a 200-seat theatre (built in 1973) on Jebel Luweibdeh, started by a small team of directors and technicians.

The permanent staff of the drama section (which as part of the Department of Culture and Arts now comes under the umbrella organisation of the Ministry of Culture and Youth) has in fact been drastically pruned in recent months.

There used to be a company of about 30 actors and actresses on full-time salaries. But, as Hatem Al Sayed explained somewhat ruefully, "they tended to be paid for doing nothing".

## New faces

Since Mr. Al Sayed took over, a few months ago, the permanent company has been disbanded and the section relies now instead on recruiting part-time actors for particular plays. This has the merit of introducing new faces to the public — quite important in a place where drama is still on a small scale.

The department advertises for talent in the press and puts the successful applicants through a three month training course. There is a high turnover among the performers but it is safe to say that most are young and that very few are women, which poses something of a problem. With extraordinary ingenuity is appears that the section actually re-scripted Gogol's "Government Inspector" (the most recent of their productions) so that no women appeared at all.

The number of performances has been stepped up at the theatre. Last year five full-scale productions were staged and the ambition is to have the theatre in continual use in the future.

An American play opened



Line-up of the Jordan Folklore troupe

this year's season -- on Feb. 2. "The girl in the Freudian slip" was not arranged by the Department but they lent the theatre to the American Women of Amman. By mid February the department's own version -- in Arabic of course -- of a play by Clemencau should be on the stage and two more have been selected to follow that.

The theatre is not expected to make a profit and tickets can be bought for the competitive price of 20 piasters. But it is still hard to lure audiences away from the T.V. or the cinema. The majority of theatre-goers are drawn from the better educated. School groups are encouraged and students get in at half price.

## On tour

The theatre is sometimes packed out for a whole week's performances but more successful in a way have been the tours outside Amman which the department has undertaken.

They have performed in Karak, Ma'an, Irbid, Salt, Aqaba and Zarqa -- often in the open air. The people came in their masses and were happy -- according to Hatem Al Sayed.

Without so many other forms of entertainment in these places, the audiences tended to be more appreciative and enthusiastic.

More could certainly be done to encourage drama in schools. The department is happy to help in any way it can -- with technical assistance and equipment.

The department's own plays

ming groups for the Ministry, is folkloric dancing and singing. Staged in the Palace of Culture these shows often pack in audiences of 4,000 over a couple of nights. Shakespeare goes down well too.

## The Royal Theatre

In the near future the drama scene in Jordan is going to be transformed. Contrary to all appearances, work is still going on on that space-age looking building on the way to the university, which as its rusting sign proclaims, is the Royal Theatre. It reportedly houses a cinema and restaurant and a most advanced stage equipped with the latest theatrical gadgets. There are rumours that it may be finished this year.

This month a well-known British theatre manager, Mr. Ian Albery, is being flown out as the guest of the minister to advise about how to put it all into operation.

Asked about the difficulties, as he saw them, of developing drama here, Hatem Al Sayed talked about a clutch of problems -- but he felt that the lack of actors and suitable playwrights were the most important.

Equipping Amman with a deluxe new theatre is not the obvious thing to do when existing ones are not used to their capacity. In the initial stages the Royal Theatre will have to be staffed largely from outside. But it may be that at a large-scale project of this sort is just what is needed to infect the people of Amman with the theatre-going bug.



Hot debate scene in Gogol's "The Government Inspector"

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**BUSINESS SUPPLIES**

# Saudi Arabia introduces oil production ceiling at 8.5 million barrels per day

NEW YORK, Feb. 15 (R). — Saudi Arabia, the world's largest oil exporter, has imposed a production limit of 8.5 million barrels a day, the Chairman of Exxon Corporation, Mr. C. C. Garvin, said yesterday. Mr. Garvin said the limit, two million barrels below the country's maximum potential daily output, applied to production by the Arabian American Oil Company (ARAMCO), a consortium of four U.S. oil firms including Exxon and the Saudi government.

Mr. Garvin was speaking at a news conference in Washington.

Authoritative oil industry sources said the ceiling was about 500,000 barrels a day less than Saudi Arabia has been producing in recent months. Precise figures are kept secret by the Saudis.

It is the first time since late 1976 that such a limit has been applied.

Oil industry sources suggested three reasons for the ceiling.

One was a current world oil surplus, caused by more efficient use of petroleum and the still sluggish economies

of some industrial states.

Another possible reason was that Saudi Arabia wanted to signal to other members of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) that it would keep production in line to support OPEC prices.

The third possible explanation, the sources said, was that oil production normally rises in the second half of the year and falls off during the first half.

Although the 1977 average daily production in Saudi Arabia has been estimated at just over nine million barrels daily, production in the last

three months went as high as 9.5 million barrels a day in December.

But last month this figure fell off significantly, oil industry experts believe.

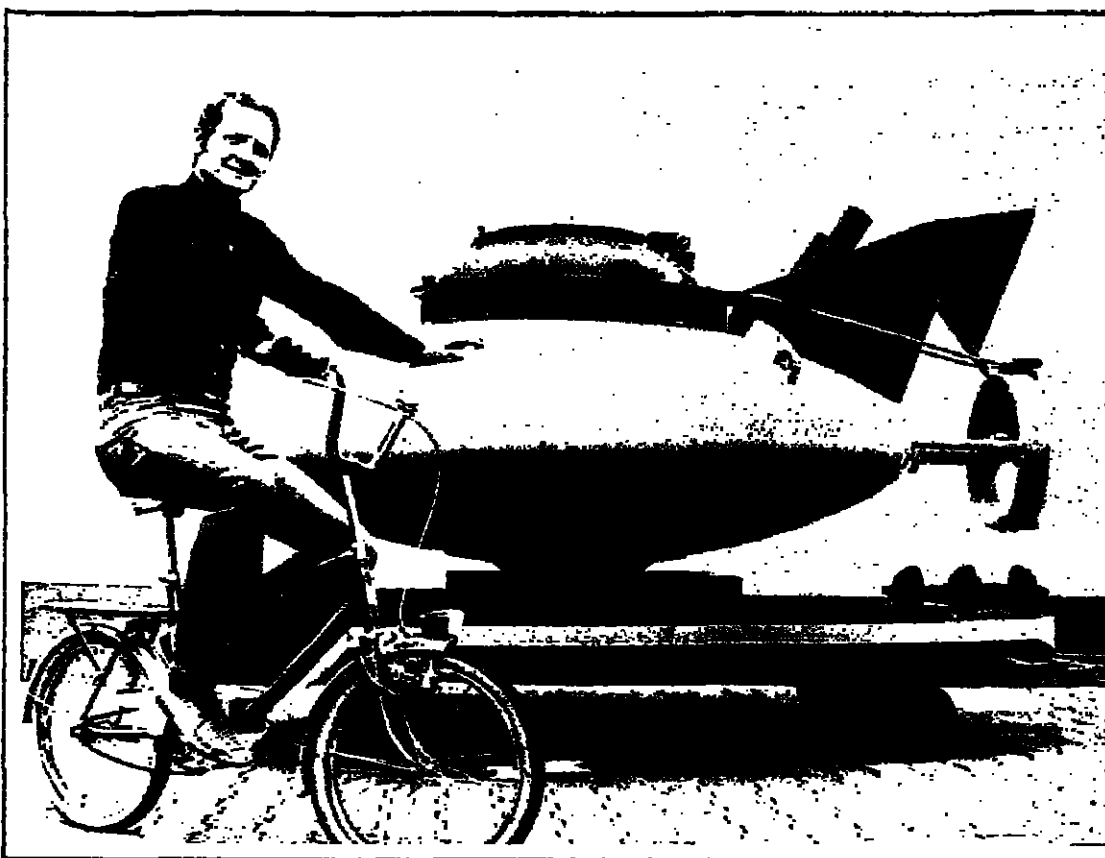
The industry sources told Reuters Aramco would probably have no trouble respecting the 8.5 million barrel ceiling.

The company, responsible for nearly all Saudi oil production and marketing, would probably not have produced much more than that anyway, the sources said.

Last year was the first time that average daily production from Saudi Arabia exceeded

nine million barrels. The average for 1976 was 8.3 million barrels a day, and for 1975 was 6.8 million.

Despite the current 8.5 million barrel per day ceiling the Saudi government had reiterated plans to increase potential production to around 14 million barrels a day by the early 1980's, Mr. Garvin said.



## Pedalling across the Atlantic

Hans Butgerff, a 39-year-old mechanic from Astheim, Germany, is posing alongside his pedal-powered "flying saucer". It is in fact a specially-designed submarine in which he plans to pedal-power a three-phase current generator that will take him across the Atlantic. He reckons he can cross the Atlantic from Gran Canaria to Barbados by Shant's pony, powering his own electric motor to drive the screws. In preparation for his imaginative solo bid he is undergoing a punishing training schedule to keep fit. It includes 800 kms. by bicycle to make sure that his muscles are attuned to keeping those pedals on the move. (Dad photo)

## Gulf states meet U.N. body agrees on to coordinate monetary policy compromise proposal for oil tanker safety

ABU DHABI, Feb. 15 (R). — Central bankers from six Gulf states opened a two-day meeting here today in an attempt to coordinate their monetary policies.

The official Emirates News Agency said that Saudi Arabia and Oman were participating as full members for the first time in a quarterly meeting of the central bankers of the gulf which has been held regularly for the last three years.

Saudi Arabia has attended previous meetings as an observer but Oman has never taken part.

Today's meeting followed last month's revaluation by three states -- UAE, Qatar and Bahrain -- of their currencies against the U.S. dollar.

The coordinated revaluation is expected to be discussed by the bankers.

The first day will be devoted to reports on the economic, monetary and banking policy in each country, officials said.

The second day will be for an open discussion of coordination of banking policy and the monetary situation in the region, they said.

LONDON, Feb. 15 (R). — Maritime and oil-producing nations in conference here yesterday agreed on ways to reduce oil pollution from tankers by installing safety systems.

A spokesman at the United Nations Inter-governmental Maritime Consultative Organisation (IMCO), which sponsored the two-week meeting, said all 60 states taking part had agreed on a compromise proposal.

This generally allows tanker owners to choose either a costly retrofit for all existing vessels to put in separate seawater ballast tanks or the less-expensive

installation of a high-pressure spray cleaning system. New vessels would have to have both systems.

The proposal will go to a plenary meeting of the conference today and will come into force when a certain number of governments yet to be fixed -- has agreed to it.

Much of the world's oil pollution is caused when tankers empty their ballast tanks to take on oil. They need to carry seawater when not loaded to give them stability and keep their propellers in the water.

The United States had pressed for compulsory retrofitting

of existing tankers with separate ballast tanks, but dropped the demand in the face of opposition from many states on the grounds of cost.

The U.S. was supported by Norway, Sweden, Greece, Morocco and Portugal. The British-favoured washing system was preferred by Japan, Holland, Italy, East and West Germany and some developing nations.

In the compromise, ships over 40,000 tons must have one of the systems, but smaller vessels would need only to install a simple system to pump their non-explosive exhaust gases into oil tanks to make them safer.

## Saudi Arabia has assured continued use of dollar in oil price setting, says U.S. Treasury secretary

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15 (R). — Treasury Secretary Michael Blumenthal said yesterday the major industrialised nations were confident they could maintain growth and still avoid upsetting the world economy by sharp currency fluctuations.

He told a news conference after a three-day trip to Europe that Saudi Arabia had assured him it would continue to set oil prices in dollars and so avoid weakening the U.S. currency further.

Mr. Blumenthal met the finance ministers of Britain, Japan, France and West Germany jointly in Paris and had a private meeting with Saudi Arabian Finance Minister Sheikh Mohammad Ali Abal Khalil.

Mr. Blumenthal commented on the suggestion last month by Kuwaiti Oil Minister Abdul Muttaleb Al Kazimi that the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) should find another unit of currency for oil prices.

He said the Saudi Arabian finance minister had already promised him that the Saudis had no intention of taking part in such a shift.

## U.S. jet fighter costs surge

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15 (AP). — The estimated cost of the U.S. navy's new F-14, already the most expensive jet fighter in history, is climbing by more than 45 per cent to \$29.7 million apiece, military sources say.

The sources say a quarterly report will show that the cost of an F-14, the navy's chief fighter jet, is going up by about \$9.3 million.

At the same time, the price of an F-18 fighter -- described by Defense Secretary Harold Brown as "a low-cost complement to the F-14" -- is rising

by about \$2.2 million to \$18 million each.

The air force's two prime fighters, the F-15 and F-16, also are registering cost boosts, sources said, but much less than the navy aircraft experienced.

The F-15, designed to defeat any known Soviet fighter, is up by about \$200,000 a piece to \$18.1 million. U.S. President Jimmy Carter has proposed selling 15 of these planes to Israel and 60 to Saudi Arabia.

The F-16, the air force's lightweight fighter, is increasing

by about \$800,000 dollars to \$10.8 million. Mr. Carter has proposed selling 75 of these aircraft to Israel.

The sources said much of the increase in the costs of the F-15, F-16 and F-18 is blamed on projected inflation in the years the planes are being produced.

Part of the big rise in the cost of the last 162 F-14's to be purchased, however, is said to result from a decision to stretch out F-14 production. Next year the navy will buy 24 F-14's instead of the 36 that the navy requested.

## Egypt holds investment meet

CAIRO, Feb. 15 (R). — A one-day conference on progress achieved so far in investment projects and difficulties encountered by investors in Egypt was held here yesterday.

Addressing the opening session, Prime Minister Mamlouh Salem said that under the country's open-door economic policy, investment projects were completed in the past two years with a capital totaling about 575 million Egyptian pounds (about \$826 million).

Mr. Salem said this was in addition to projects carried out in free zone areas in Egypt totaling 271 projects.

The conference was attended by representatives of foreign investors in Egypt, as well as Egyptian economic officials.

Mr. Salem said the open-door economic policy was a basic national strategy.

## Carter calls in coal miners, mine owners for negotiations

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15 (R). — President Carter called on coal miners and mine owners to come to the White House for negotiations yesterday aimed at ending an 11-week strike.

If the stalemate goes on Mr. Carter said he might use his powers to order 160,000 striking workers back to the pits -- a move he has resisted while, during a bitter winter, U.S. coal stocks have shrunk dangerously low.

The strike threatens to cause mass lay-offs and power cuts in the U.S. Middle West. Most outdoor and advertising

lighting was ordered turned off in Indiana. Ohio was expected to follow suit.

Virginia was considering rationing electric power. Western Pennsylvania power companies were seeking permission from state officials for power cuts.

"The present stalemate cannot be allowed to continue," the president declared.

### To our readers

The Jordan Times is pleased to be able to resume regular daily publication of the London stock market report, the London closing gold price and the London foreign exchange rates. We suspended publication of these financial services because our erratic reception of the information every evening did not allow us to publish the features on a daily basis. Technical factors have now improved to the point where we are reasonably sure that the information will be available every day.

In the near future, we hope to expand this financial news section by publishing a daily report from Wall Street, along with the weekly Wall Street report that we now publish every Sunday on this page.

— The editor

## Iceberg towing gets a stamp of credibility

ADELAIDE, Australia, (AIS) — The first International Conference on Iceberg Utilisation has decided to seek governments' support for an Australian professor's plan to use icebergs to water arid lands.

There are hopes that a co-ordinated international assault on the problem could begin in the Antarctic this year.

Professor Peter Schwerdtfeger, who is the Professor of Meteorology and Director of the Institute for Atmospheric and Marine Sciences at Flinders University in Adelaide, the South Australian capital, persuaded the Australian government two years ago to send a five-man study team to the Antarctic as the first serious step in investigating the proposal.

Reports of this reached the Saudi Arabian government which jointly, with the French Central Commerce Organisation, CICEO, sponsored a preliminary conference in Paris in June, 1977 to examine Professor Schwerdtfeger's proposition in more detail.

That meeting, decided to call the first International Conference on Iceberg Utilisation in the United States of America at Ames, Iowa.

This time the Saudi Arabian government's co-sponsor was the United States National Science Foundation.

"In short," said Professor Schwerdtfeger, "the idea of

towing icebergs to arid countries has had the stamp of credibility placed upon it and if the plan can become a reality it will mean more to the world -- and particularly the Third World countries -- than even the greatest feats of space exploration."

Professor Schwerdtfeger, who represented Australia at the American conference with Flinders University colleague, Mr. Jonathan Job, a chemical engineer, said he had been greatly impressed by the number of positive and practical scientific papers presented at the meeting.

Because the international Global Atmospheric Research Programme (GARP) was due to be launched in the Antarctic during 1978, this would be an ideal time -- with so much scientific equipment and manpower assembled there -- to begin the first stage of a feasibility study on iceberg towing, he said.

The strike threatens to cause mass lay-offs and power cuts in the U.S. Middle West. Most outdoor and advertising

Since icebergs are usually avoided like the plague, what needs to be done is to use available satellite technology to select a suitable stable iceberg and land a data gathering team of scientists on it to compile a life history of its dynamics and thermal characteristics," Professor Schwerdtfeger said.

Once we know how icebergs behave as they melt, and at what rate and in what conditions they disintegrate, we should be in a position to try test tows in areas remote from shipping lanes," he said.

Professor Schwerdtfeger said the final stage of the feasibility study would be a full tow and processing of the iceberg at a previously determined destination.

Because Australia was ideally placed for such an exercise, it seemed likely that a beaching position would be decided on at either the eastern or western end of the Great Australian Bight.

Professor Schwerdtfeger held talks in Australia late in 1977 with Mr. George Moughn, Managing Director of Iceberg Transport International Limited, of Paris, which is retained as an advisor to the Saudi Arabian government.

The professor said he had little doubt that the Saudi Arabian government would be willing to finance an iceberg towing feasibility study, provided it had "appropriate indications of support from other governments such as those of the United States of America, the United Kingdom, France and Australia, perhaps starting with an indication of support through GARP."

It was amazing to observe the speed at which the project had become "totally respectable," he said.

"Before the June Paris conference many scientists refused to take us seriously; after the Paris talks many offered us cautious support; but after the October, Iowa conference, even the most cautious were admitting that there could be something in it," Professor Schwerdtfeger said.

## LOCAL EXCHANGE RATES

Jordanian fils	Buying/selling
U.S. dollar	313.00/315.00
U.K. sterling	606.00/610.00
W. German mark	149.60/150.50
Swiss franc	162.90/163.80
French franc	64.60/65.00
Italian lire (for every 100)	36.50/36.70
Japanese yen (for every 100)	130.10/130.90
Dutch guilder	139.90/140.70
Belgian franc (for every ten)	96.20/96.80
Swedish crown	66.90/67.30

## FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON, Feb. 15 (R). — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies against the dollar at the close of inter-bank trading on the London foreign exchange market today. Tourist rates will differ from those quoted below.

One sterling	1.9340/50	U.S. dollars
One dollar	2.0855/70	West German marks
	2.2330/50	Dutch guilders
	1.9185/9200	Swiss francs
	32.43/45	Belgian francs
	4.8440/90	French francs
	857.65/858.15	Italian lire
	240.55/70	Japanese yen

## LONDON MARKET REPORT

Government bonds closed up to 3/4 lower while equities lost up to 10p Wednesday as the market continued to react to the 179 min U.K. January current account deficit, dealers said. At 15:00 hrs. the F.T. index was down 7.5 at 432.2.

Bonds were marked down by up to 1-1/2 points initially but rallied on cheap buying. Prices were marked down again by up to 1/4 temporarily following news of a larger than expected rise in the U.K. December earnings figures.

Gold shares firmed with the bullion price while U.S. and Canadian issues closed steady to lower.

Bowaters, Fisons, Glaxo, ICI, Thorn, Guest Keen, Hawley Siddeley, Tube Investments, Bechams and Unilever lost between 3p and 10p. Lucas gained 1p. Oil shares fell by up to 5p although Royal Dutch rose by 7/16 to 38-15/16 stg. National Westminster gained 1p, while other bank shares lost up to 5p.

Dairy rose by 3p to 227p following interim results. Rhodesian issues gained slightly following news Rhodesian leaders were close to a constitutional settlement, dealers said.

Gold price not received.

EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 20, 1978

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Pakistan International

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Amman Abu Dhabi Karachi

TUESDAY	TUESDAY
PK 254	PK 253
720H	720H
14:45	12:25
15:30	11:35
16:20	10:45
21:10	09:35
22:00	08:15
Wednesday 00:50	07:00

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INDIAN RESTAURANTS

مكتبة الامم



FORECAST FOR THURSDAY, FEB. 16, 1978

Your **HOROSCOPE**

from the CARROLL-RIGHTER INSTITUTE

**GENERAL TENDENCIES:** A day when you can easily employ your finest mental qualities to achieve greater success in your line of work. An excellent time to put across your ideas to others.

**ARIES** (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) You can communicate well with others now and get excellent results. Sidelstep one who could be detrimental to your best interests.

**AURUS** (Apr. 20 to May 20) Make a sensible plan which could give you greater income. Confer with a good friend for advice you need.

**GEMINI** (May 21 to June 21) Make plans to gain your social aims early in the day. Allow time for enjoyment with the company of good friends.

**MOON CHILDREN** (June 22 to July 21) Delve deep into a new plan you have and gain the backing of friends. Increased devotion to the one you love.

**LEO** (July 22 to Aug. 21) Make long-range plans which will give you greater abundance in the days ahead. Show lively members you are most devoted.

**IRGO** (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Contact influential persons and gain their backing in a new project you have planned. Avoid a troublemaker.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Know your best mode of expression for the future and delve right into it. You rely on your intuition at this time.

**CORPIO** (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Keep promises made to others in a most precise way and get excellent results. Live for more harmony with loved one.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Come to a better understanding with your associates. Situations arise that show how best to solve perplexing problems.

**APRICORN** (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Do whatever will give more accord between you and associates. Express piety with loved one tonight.

**QUARIUS** (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Put your finest skills to work and make rapid gains in career matters at this time. Be active and strive for happiness.

**SCISCES** (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Do some entertaining at home and make a fine impression on others. Study a new before putting it in operation.

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## GRAFFITI

IF SPACE SCIENTISTS ARE SO SMART, WHY DO THEY COUNT BACKWARDS?

OUT & ABOUT

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Guarantees for breaded and light snacks, home, lunch or dinner. Amman, First Circle.

1083, Jabal Al Lawth, Amman Circle. Tel. 30448

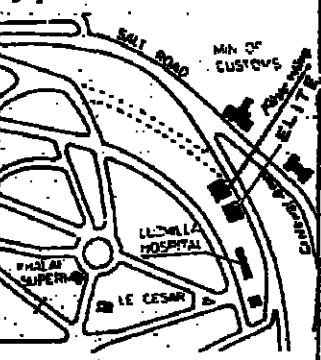
Al Hussein, near Jerusalem, Tel. 21781. In Zarqa and Irbid.

Wings Hotel, Jabal Amman, Tel. 23103/4. See of THREE set specially for lunch, and a

in 12:30 p.m. and 7-12 Specialty: steaks.

## CHINESE RESTAURANT

First Chinese restaurant in Jordan. First Circle, Jabal Amman, near the Alkhalil School or CME. Tel. 30805. Open daily from noon to 2:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. to midnight. Also take home service order by phone.



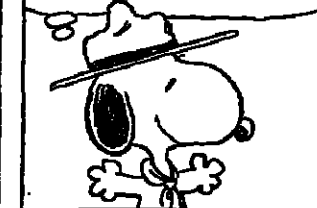
For advertising in above columns contact "Sour. W. Sour" Tel. 30805. Open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 4-6 p.m.

## PEANUTS

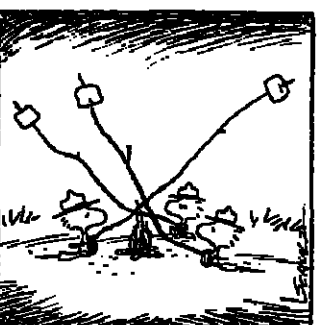
FOR OUR LAST NIGHT OUT I'VE PLANNED SOMETHING SPECIAL



HOW ABOUT A MARSHMALLOW ROAST?



I'LL BUILD THE FIRE...YOU GET YOURSELVES SOME NICE LONG STICKS...



## ANDY CAPP



AH, THAT PROVES YOU'VE AD ENOUGH - NOW YOU'RE ARGUING MY SIDE OF THE ARGUMENT!

I KNOW I AM, JACKIE - YOUR SIDE WASN'T DOIN' TOO WELL



## MUTT &amp; JEFF

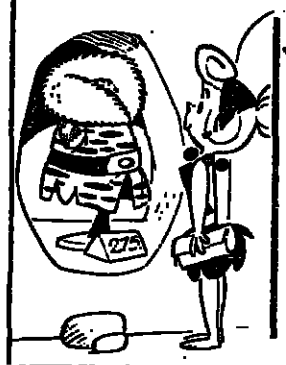


OKAY, YOU'RE HIRED! BUT YOU MUST REMEMBER OUR BUSINESS IS RUN ON A SOUND BASIS!

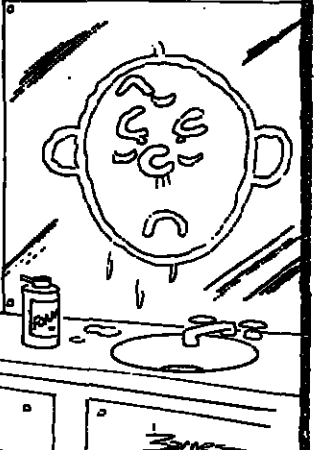
I INSIST ON YOU TAKING ABSOLUTELY NO CHANCES!



## THE FLINTSTONES



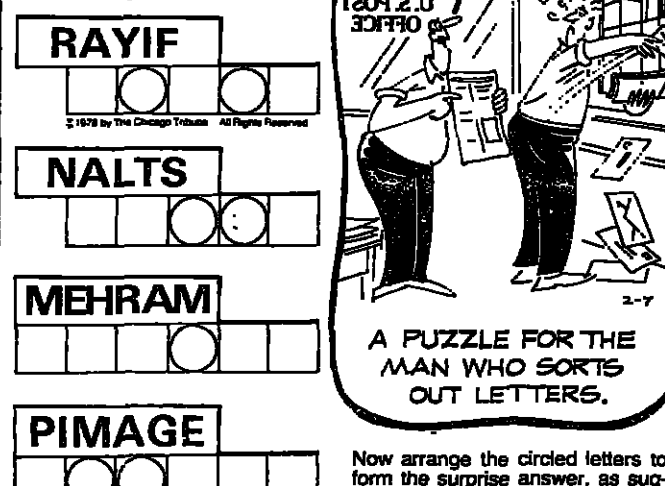
## THE BETTER HALF. By Barnes



"Very funny, Harriet! Your cartoon of me on the bathroom mirror!"

## JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.



Print answer here: AN

Yesterday's Jumbles: AWFUL BANJO RAINCID FRENZY

Answer: What the day following a day off sometimes is - AN OFF DAY

## CORED BRIDGE

BY CHARLES H. GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF © 1978 by Chicago Tribune

Q.1-Neither vulnerable, as South you hold: ♠AKJ10 ♥Q7 ♠954 ♠K1098

Your right-hand opponent opens the bidding with one diamond. What action do you take?

A.-It is not our practice to overcall in a four-card suit, but this is an exception. You are too strong to wait for the auction to develop, yet you can't afford to double because of your heart shortage. If you double and then bid spades over partner's heart response, you would show a stronger hand with at least a five-card suit.

Q.2-East-West vulnerable, as South you hold: ♠93 ♥874 ♠K194 ♠KQ107

The bidding has proceeded: North East South West 1 ♠ 1 ♥ 2 ♠ 2 ♥

What do you bid now?

A.-Your response is a matter of style. If you play that a simple raise shows subject weakness while a jump raise shows values without being forcing, three clubs stands out. But if you believe that a jump raise over a double shows a distributional hand with no particular high-card strength, a simple raise to two clubs is all you can afford. You are a trifle weak for a redouble.

Q.3-As South, vulnerable, you hold: ♠1095 ♥863 ♠AK ♠KQ983

The bidding has proceeded: North East South West 1 ♠ 1 ♥ 2 ♠ 2 ♥

What do you bid now?

A.-Since you have opening bid values, you must make an effort to reach game. However, the auction has developed awkwardly for you. For the moment you should do no more than raise to three diamonds. Perhaps that will encourage partner to try three no trump if he has a spade stopper.

Q.4-Both vulnerable, as South with 80 on score you hold: ♠7 ♥KQ1075 ♠K982 ♠Q83

The bidding has proceeded: North East South West 1 ♠ 1 ♥ 1 ♠ 1 ♥

What action do you take?

A.-This is close. Obviously partner expects to beat one spade, and with your defensive values, the set should be sure. However, the fact that you have three clubs might detract from partner's defensive capacity. We would try to complete the rubber by bidding one no trump - not two hearts, for partner's double should be based on heart shortage.

Q.5-As South vulnerable, you hold: ♠A872 ♥A10985 ♠982 ♠7

The bidding has proceeded: North East South West 1 ♠ 1 ♥ 2 ♠ 2 ♥

What action do you take?

A.-Your hand rates one move toward game - a pair of aces and a five-card suit is a useful holding when opener raises your suit. Since you want partner to evaluate his entire hand, rather than a specific holding in one suit, we would make a general game try by rebidding three hearts.

Q.6-Both vulnerable, as South you hold: ♠854 ♥AK ♠AKQ10 ♠AJ98

The bidding has proceeded: North East South West 1 ♠ 1 ♥ 2 ♠ 2 ♥

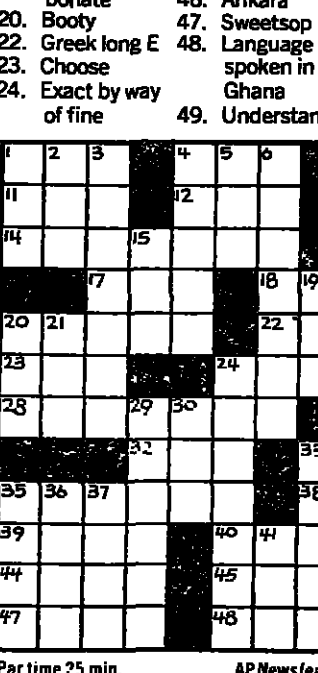
What do you bid now?

A.-Considering our wealth of high cards outside the spade suit, partner must have a very good suit to make a jump bid even though he is a passed hand. A leap to six spades would not be criticized, but we would content ourselves by raising to five spades. This pinpoints our concern about the solidity of partner's suit.

## CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS  
1. Jujube  
4. relief  
7. Fashion  
11. Part of be  
12. Distress  
13. Elliptical  
14. Grandeur  
16. Tidy up  
17. Chew  
18. Hydrated sodium car-  
20. Bonate  
22. Greek long E  
23. Choose  
24. Exact by way of fine

DOWN  
28. Prompts  
31. Imitate  
32. Creek  
33. Electric unit  
35. Throughout  
38. Its fruit is the samara  
39. Dill  
40. Happiness  
44. Blue-footed petrel  
45. Scandinavians in Russia  
46. Arika  
47. Sweetshop  
48. Language spoken in Ghana  
49. Understanding 5. Holm



Per time 25 min. AP Newsfeatures 2/9

FINALE STAG  
RETIREES HOME  
EST. LENT ARE  
ATE AD OK  
LINES POSIT  
IVAN WIT UME  
ZAT NOT WEPT  
ELEVEN SUTRA  
IF DA SON  
YOUR KILT PU  
ECRU REVISES  
SANS ATONER

## YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION

DOWN  
1. Cheat  
2. Age  
3. Excludes  
4. Moisture  
5. Holm  
6. Craftiness  
7. Used with a pestle  
8. Completed  
9. Pedestal part  
10. Southern col-  
11. Sound per-  
12. Siamese coin  
13. Eye worm  
14. and  
15. Cabinet  
16. Characteristic  
17. Brazilian  
18. Spread to dry  
19. Eye inflam-  
20. Envy  
21. Escutcheon  
22. bar  
23. High in pitch  
24. Information  
25. One  
26. Network  
27. Bossy  
28. Bishopric  
29. Longing

## JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE

## JORDAN TELEVISION

Channel 3 & 6:  
6:00 Quran  
6:15 Cartoons  
6:30 Little house on the prairie  
8:00 News in Arabic  
10:00 News in Arabic  
11:00 News in Arabic  
Channel 3:  
7:30 Arabic programme

## RADIO JORDAN

7:00 Morning show  
7:30 News bulletin  
8:00 Morning show  
10:00 News headlines  
10:30 Morning show  
10:30 Happy journey  
11:00 Signing off  
12:00 News headlines  
12:30 Pop session  
13:00 News summary  
13:25 Pop session

## EMERGENCIES

Doctors:  
Amman:  
Abdul Aziz Abu Khalaf (22520)  
Najaf Al Sukkar (36606)  
Irbid:  
Fakhri Swelhel (3240)  
Zarqa:  
Yatya Tunnir (28894)  
Taxis:  
Vesela (44584)

## BBC RADIO

GMT  
5:00 News: 24 Hours  
5:30 Sarah Ward  
5:45 World Today  
6:00 News: Press Review  
6:30 Banners and Bonnets  
7:00 News: 24 Hours  
7:30 Sarah Ward  
7:45 Cider with Rosie  
8:00 News: Reflections  
8:15 Music of Two Cities  
8:30 Farming World  
9:00 News: Press Review  
9:15 World Today  
9:30 Financial News  
9:45 Wales and the Welsh  
10:00 London's Musical  
10:30 Vintage Comedy  
11:00 News: News about Britain  
11:15 Schabell Plays Beethoven  
11:30 Business Matters  
12:00 Radio Newsnet  
12:15 Top Twenty  
12:45 Sports Round-up  
13:00 News: 24 Hours  
13:30 New Ideas

## VOICE OF AMERICA

GMT  
03:00 The Breakfast Show: 03:00, 04:00, 05:00 and Reports: VOA Current News Summary 03:30, 04:30 and 05:30 GMT  
An informal presentation of popular music with feature reports and interviews, answers to listeners' questions, Science Digest  
17:00 News Roundup, Reports, Actualities, Opinions, Analyses, News Summary  
17:30 Dateline  
18:00 Special English News

## AMMAN AIRPORT

Arrivals:  
5:45 Damascus (SAA)  
7:40 Cairo (EA)  
7:55 Doha, Kuwait  
8:00 Bangkok, Bahrain  
8:15 Kuwait (KAC)  
8:20 Damascus  
8:30 Beirut  
8:40 Riyadh (SDI)  
8:45 Dubai, Abu Dhabi  
11:00 Cairo  
11:30 London  
11:40 Beirut (MEA)  
12:35 Amsterdam, Athens (KLM)  
24:30 Rome (AZ)  
02:25 Rawalpindi (BA)

## CULTURAL CENTRES

American Centre (USIS) Tel. 41520  
British Council Tel. 36147-8  
French Cultural Centre Tel. 37008  
Goethe Institute Tel. 41983  
Soviet Cultural Centre Tel. 4203  
Amman Municipal Library Tel. 36111

## USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Ambulance (government) Tel. 75111  
Civil defence rescue Tel. 24391-4  
Fire headquarters Tel. 22080  
Fire station Tel. 18  
Jordan Electric Power Co. (emergency) Tel. 36361-2  
Jordan water services (emergency) Tel. 37111-3  
Police headquarters Tel. 39141  
Najdah roving patrol rescue police, (English spoken) 24 hours a day for emergency help Tel. 21111, 37777  
Airport information (Arabic) Tel. 52025



# Bomb blast persuades Commonwealth meet to form anti-terror body

BOWRAL, Australia, Feb. 15 (R). — Leaders of 12 Asian and Pacific nations, shocked by a bomb blast two days ago, today agreed to work together to combat terrorism. Indian Prime Minister Morarji Desai told reporters: "We must find some ways of checking terrorism and seeing that it disappears. A committee will be set up for that as a result of our meeting here."

Commonwealth leaders are holding 48 hours of informal talks at a luxurious manor house here inside a cordon of armed troops and police.

The strict military security and the decision to move the regional talks to this rural township 130 kms. south of Sydney followed Monday's bomb blast outside the original Sydney conference site.

The blast killed two people and injured nine others, including four policemen. Hundreds of battle-equipped troops who were rushed here yesterday were withdrawn from the township itself before dawn today to man strongpoints several kilometres away.

Meanwhile, Australian authorities offered a 100,000 Australian dollars (U.S. \$213,000) reward for information leading to the arrest of the bombers who intelligence sources said may have been anarchists.

Informed sources said several of the leaders conferred with Australian Prime Minister.

*All life is in space dust, says scientist*

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15 (R).

An American scientist suggested today that all the ingredients for life are contained in the gases and dusts which swirl throughout the Universe.

Dr. Raymond J. Talbot, of Rice University, told the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science that astronomers had used new techniques for radio astronomy to identify many molecules necessary for life in the interstellar medium (ISM).

Scientists had no techniques at present to detect some molecules but "there is every suggestion that they are there," he said in a paper to be delivered at the meeting.

Dr. Talbot said many of the molecules already discovered are those contained in the "primordial soup" which had been produced in laboratory experiments.

"This fact raises the possibility that the phenomenon we know as 'life' maybe a natural, common, universal advanced stage of interstellar organic chemistry," he said.

He said the complex organic molecules found in space, once thought to be a lifeless void between the stars, are now believed to be atoms moving about on the surfaces of small silicate grains which astronomers refer to as dust.

Except for the size and degree of complexity, Dr. Talbot asked rhetorically, was there any difference between those complex interstellar particles and the large silicate grain we know as Earth?

"It is not unreasonable," he said, "to regard life as simply one supercomplex component of the interstellar medium."

ter Malcolm Fraser on ways of providing closer cooperation between intelligence and security forces in the Commonwealth to prevent attacks such as the Sydney bombing.

Anti-terrorist moves were expected to be announced by the Commonwealth leaders in a final communique now being drafted by their foreign ministers in Sydney.

The communique will be issued after the regional conference officially closes tomorrow.

It is expected to call on all countries to stop harbouring terrorists and to tighten security against attacks.

There were two security scares early today. One sent police racing to surround a small van less than 1.5 kms. from the manor where the talks were taking place.

Police discovered a Spanish-born labourer asleep under the influence of liquor in the van. He was arrested when a search revealed a loaded .44-calibre Winchester rifle in the van.

Later, the sound of what were reported to be shots from the farm proved on investigation to be a youth cracking a whip after a party.

## Tremors hit east, central Turkey

ANKARA, Feb. 15 (R). — A series of medium-strength tremors shook eastern and central Turkey today, damaging more than 300 houses and injuring a dozen people, according to first reports. The Istanbul Observatory said the main quake measuring between five and 5.5 on the open-ended Richter scale had its epicentre near the eastern town of Izumlu 1,000 kms. from Istanbul. Local officials said they received reports from only 15 of the 67 villages in the quake area because communications had been affected by heavy snowfalls.

## Filipino rebels split?

MANILA, Feb. 15 (R). — The Philippines Defence Department said today it had documentary proof of a split in the leadership of the southern Moslem rebel movement, the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF). The MNLF has been seeking at least autonomy for the minority Moslems in the largely-Christian Philippines. The Defence Department said the document showed that at the MNLF's long-time, Libyan-based Chairman, Nur Misuari, had been replaced by his number two, Hashim Salamat. The document was reported to have been filed with the Islamic Conference in Jeddah last Dec. 24 and to be circulating among MNLF field commanders in the southern Philippines Island of Mindanao, where sporadic fighting continues despite a ceasefire arranged in Dec. 1976. So far there have been no comments from either Mr. Misuari or Mr. Salamat, from the Islamic Conference which has been trying to mediate in the conflict since negotiations collapsed last April.

By Patrick Massey

TULKAREM, Occupied West Bank, (R). — Arab leaders on the West Bank are pessimistic about the chances of peace resulting from negotiations between Egypt and Israel.

In interviews with Reuters, the mayors of leading West Bank towns insisted that unless Jewish settlements were removed from Arab land there can be no peace.

This opposition to Israeli settlement emerged as perhaps the sorest grievance among Arabs who have been ruled for nearly 11 years by an Israeli military administration.

"If Israel wants peace it has to give up these settlements," said Mayor Hilmi Hanoun of Tulkarem, a town close to the 1967 Israeli border.

"We cannot understand why

the Palestinians have not the right to their own state when Israelis who have nothing to do with the West Bank are coming from all over the world and settling in that part of Palestine which is our land and not their land. The Israelis want all of Palestine as a Jewish state."

Sadat should stop

Mayor Hanoun said he thought President Anwar Sadat should have given up his peace initiative after Israeli-Egyptian disagreements became plain at the Ismailia summit in December.

"The Israelis are doing things against the wishes of Sadat by building settlements after his visit to Jerusalem," Mr. Hanoun said.

"We don't believe what Sadat is doing will bring peace.

He should go back and try again among the Arabs and try to find a real settlement." This view was largely echoed by Deputy Mayor Zafer Masri of Nablus, largest and most fiercely nationalistic town of the West Bank.

"People here were upset by Mr. Sadat's visit to Jerusalem but we so much want relief from the occupation that people hoped the visit might bring a settlement," Mr. Masri said. "But as things are we don't see much progress."

Arab demonstrations

Publicity over the settlements lately has aroused regular street demonstrations in Nablus. Arab teenagers gather on the streets and clash with the Israeli military.

But the Jewish settlers now rarely venture into Nablus. "When we travel around the area," said one settler at nearby Shomron camp, "we always take a machinegun in the car."

Deputy Mayor Masri said: "We are not prepared to accept these settlements on Arab territory. We have conceded enough by agreeing to limit our Palestinian state to this side of the 1967 border."

"We are not raising the issue of refugees ousted from Israel in 1948 so how come we are asked to share our pre-1967 area with Israel?"

1947 borders preferred

In general the mayors appear to have resigned themselves to accepting the existence of an Israeli state behind the 1967 borders.

"Of course," said Mayor Hanoun, "we would prefer to settle for an Israel inside the borders laid down in 1947 (by the United Nations Partition Plan for Palestine). But if we cannot get 1947 it should be something like 1967."

The leaders of the Palestine Liberation Organisation are well educated and understand the world. They have prestige among the Arabs. It is very difficult for the PLO to ac-



Mr. Bassam Al Shak'a, Mayor of Nablus



Mr. Elias Friej, Mayor of Bethlehem

cept Israelis in Haifa, Jaffa and so on because the refugees would be against this.

"But they understand this is the only thing they can take and they can persuade the Palestinian people this is so."

Not all the West Bank leaders are prepared to admit they would accept an Israeli state. In an interview some time previously, Mr. Masri's senior, Mayor Bassam Al Shak'a, was asked if he thought a Palestinian state on the West Bank would satisfy Arab aspirations.

Israeli propaganda

"First let us get peace and we will see," Mr. Al Shak'a replied.

The abiding Israeli fear, as claimed repeatedly by Prime Minister Menachem Begin and his predecessors, is that a Palestinian state would swiftly fall under Soviet domination, thereby placing the Jewish state in peril.

"Of course this is nonsense," said the mayor of Tulkarem.

"Any Palestinian state would be a weak state. We would not be able to make trouble for a state which is already powerful enough to fight all the Arab World."



Italian Magistrate, Dr. Riccardo Palma, 63, fell back on the front seat of his car when he was shot dead by a hail of machine-gun fire in Rome on Tuesday morning. A leftwing guerrilla band called the Red Brigades claimed responsibility for the murder -- the fifth political killing in Rome this year. The murder has overshadowed crucial moves by Prime Minister-designate Giulio Andreotti to form a new government and end Italy's month-long political crisis. Signor Andreotti was due on Wednesday to send a policy programme to the five political parties that dropped up his previous government until its collapse last month. The Red Brigades, who have often stated their intention to "de-stabilise" Italian society, showed they are clearly aware that the timing of their latest murder would have a delaying effect on Signor Andreotti's take with crisis could easily last into next month. (AP wirephoto)

## Libya, USSR discuss Mideast, Africa

MOSCOW, Feb. 15 (Agencies) — Major Abdel Salam Jalloud, a member of the ruling secretariat of the Libyan People's Congress, today briefed Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev on Arab moves to counter Egypt's peace initiative towards Israel, and discussed the situation in the Horn of Africa, Tass news agency reported.

Tass said Maj. Jalloud informed the Soviet leader about the decision of a recent three-day summit of Arab leaders opposed to the Egyptian moves in Algiers to coordinate their opposition.

The Tass report said Maj. Jalloud and Mr. Brezhnev agreed that the Egyptian-Israeli talks were obstructing the establishment of a just peace in the Middle East, and damaging Arab interests.

The Soviet Union strongly backs Damascus and Tripoli in their opposition to Egypt's direct contacts with Israel, and has provided substantial aid to both countries.

Libya is reported to have pi-

edged \$2 billion to Syria to finance additional military and economic aid, much of it from the Soviet bloc.

The Libyan aid commitment to Syria, according to western military sources in Damascus, was a secret decision taken at the Algiers conference early this month.

Maj. Jalloud is the latest in a series of visitors to Moscow from Arab states opposed to the Egyptian peace initiative.

Diplomatic sources said a senior PLO official has also paid a secret visit to Moscow. At today's Kremlin meeting the two men emphasised the importance of consolidating the progressive forces of the Arab world, and strengthening their mutual understanding with their natural allies the communist bloc, Tass said.

On the war in the Horn of Africa, the two leaders agreed that Ethiopia and Somalia should settle their differences peacefully on the basis of mutual respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity, Tass said.

## Preservatives or fertilisers contaminated Israeli fruit, official Italian tests show

BERGAMO, Italy, Feb. 15 (R). — Italian health officials said last night that Israeli grapefruit containing mercury had not been sabotaged but poisoned accidentally before export.

Dr. Mario Torda, head of the Provincial Hygiene Office, told Reuters: "We have ruled out the possibility that the contaminated fruit was sabotaged. It must be accidental poisoning through something like a fertiliser or preservatives."

The grapefruit were found late last week in this northern Italian town after a two-week alert in Europe for Israeli oranges injected with mercury. An unknown group claiming to be Palestinian has said it tampered with oranges from Israel in an attempt to damage the Israeli economy. But the Palestine Liberation Organisation denied any knowledge of the group or the affair.

Dr. Torda said that second tests yesterday showed that the grapefruit were contaminated with much smaller levels of

mercury than at first thought, ruling out the possibility that the fruit had been injected.

The grapefruit had 0.01 part to a million of mercury in them, not two parts to a million as first tests indicated.

"The level of mercury is so minute that it could not have been introduced through an injection," Dr. Torda said. "It must have been absorbed."

"We cannot say from here what caused the contamination but it can only be something like anti-parasite spray, a fertiliser or a preservative," he added.

But Mr. Eliahou Douek, Commercial Attache at the Israeli Embassy in Rome, denied that the fruit had been contaminated in Israel.

"There is no possibility that fruit leaving Israel has mercury in it," he told Reuters.

Authorities have banned the sale of grapefruit throughout Bergamo Province and Milan. Shopkeepers throughout Italy reported yesterday that demand had dried up in the wake of the discovery of the contaminated fruit.

There have been no reports of serious illness among people who have eaten the poisoned fruit in Europe.

But Israel's parliamentary Economic Committee Chairman, Gad Yaacobi has said Israel will lose up to \$30 million in citrus exports if the present drop in sales to Europe, caused by the scare, continues. He did not say until when.

## China clears Teng of blame for 1976 riots

PEKING, Feb. 15 (R). — Chinese Vice Premier Teng Hsiao-ping has been cleared publicly for the first time by name of responsibility for bloody riots which erupted in Peking's central Tian An Men Square in April, 1976. The riots led to his temporary political eclipse.

The February issue of Red Flag, organ of the Communist Party Central Committee, exonerates Mr. Teng of blame in the riots and accuses the purged "gang of four" extremist leaders of having maliciously slandered him.

Some Western diplomats interpreted this as marking Mr. Teng's full rehabilitation following his return to power in mid-

1977. The campaign against remaining extremist influence in China is still in full swing.

The Tian An Men Square riots erupted on April 5, 1976, after authorities removed wreaths commemorating Premier Chou En-lai who had died the previous January.

Tens of thousands of people had gathered in the huge square on the traditional Festival of the Dead. A number were injured and cars and a building set ablaze in the disturbances.

The People's Daily, the Communist Party newspaper, said last December the "gang of four" had gone mad after the riot, using it to further their own ends.



## W. German cabinet crisis averted

BONN, Feb. 15 (R). — A row over new West German anti-terrorism legislation which threatened defeat for the fragile coalition government of Chancellor Helmut Schmidt was patched up last night. Leftwing rebels in the Social Democratic Party (SPD) agreed on a compromise package of laws. They had earlier threatened to vote against the original proposal when it returned for second reading in the Bundestag (lower house) today. The said they still intended to vote against the modified bill on the grounds that it infringed basic human rights, but coalition party sources said this would not prevent the government achieving two-vote majority.

## Libya ready to fight Rhodesia, S. Africa

TRIPOLI, Feb. 15 (R). — Libyan leader Muammar Qaddafi said yesterday that the Libyan Jamahiriyah was ready to send troops to fight the white minority regimes in Southern Africa, the Jamahiriyah News Agency (JANA) reported. He told the opening session of Liberation Committee of the Organisation of African Unit (OAU) that his country was also willing to fight alongside nationalist movements in Southern Africa to help them achieve freedom and independence.

## British all-party immigration parley?

LONDON, Feb. 15 (R). — British Labour Prime Minister Jim Callaghan last night offered to hold all-party talks on immigration, which has recently become a heated political issue. During noisy exchanges in the House of Commons yesterday, Mr. Callaghan said that without an all-party agreement, race could "disturb British society with hatred." Conservative opposition leader Margaret Thatcher raised the race issue in a television interview last month, calling for a "clear end" to immigration to assuage fears among Britons they might be "swamped" by immigrants.

## Soviet Belgrade declaration draft rejected

BELGRADE, Feb. 15 (R). — Western and neutral countries rejected last night a new Soviet draft designed as a final declaration for the European security conference on East-West detente and human rights. American delegate Arthur Goldberg said the Soviet proposal lacked any substance or detail and did not ensure fulfilment of the 1975 Helsinki accords.

## Bella Abzug defeated in Congress poll

NEW YORK, Feb. 15 (R). — Flamboyant New York politician Bella Abzug suffered a narrow but surprising defeat in a bid to return to the House of Representatives. The controversial Democrat, known for her floppy hats and caustic tongue, had held 10 percentage point lead for most of the night, in the battle to fill a Congressional seat left vacant by the election of Mr. Edward Koch as New York's Mayor. She had already been declared the winner by the city's news organisations when, just before midnight, the tide suddenly turned and Republican opponent William Green picked up a last-minute surge of votes.

## Missing W. German rightist found alive

MUNICH, Feb. 15 (R). — A rightwing party official who disappeared two days ago was found alive near here today after his known group claimed to have kidnapped him. Police said Dieter Huber, 30, Foreign Affairs Adviser of the Christian Social Union (CSU), was suffering from shock but was otherwise well. He told police he was thrown out of a Volkswagen van containing several men near the town of Hohenbrunn.

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